



Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

FUNDAMENTALS

NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF IRISH STUDIES

SPRING 2012

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IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER AND DIGNITARIES VISIT SCHOOL



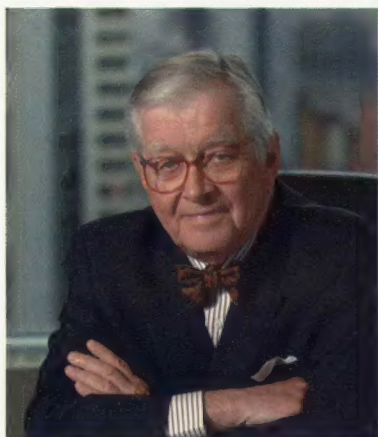
Attending the March 16 event are (from left) David Graham (Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs), Frederick Lowy (President and Vice-Chancellor), Michael Kenneally (Principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies), Eamon Gilmore (Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland), Marie Claire Morin (Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations), Daniel Johnson (Trustee, Canadian Irish Studies Foundation) and Paul Martin (Honorary Patron, Canadian Irish Studies Foundation and former Prime Minister of Canada). (see story on p. 7)

MOVING CLOSER TO OUR GOAL

Our donors have responded enthusiastically to the challenge of raising \$500,000 to help finance a new professor for the School of Canadian Irish Studies. Since May 2011, a total of \$97,250 has been raised because of the continuing generosity of our donors. The Foundation itself earmarked \$324,000 in undesignated surpluses, bringing the total on hand to \$421,250, leaving only \$78,750 to go. If you have not yet contributed, your support in helping us reach our goal would be most welcome. The commitment of \$500,000 over five years from the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation will help Concordia University to appoint a new professor, beginning in July 2012. After the initial five-year period of funding for this position by the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, Concordia University will assume full financial responsibility for that professor into the future.

Please see information on how to contribute on the back page.

CISF TRUSTEE DAVID SCOTT APPOINTEED TO THE ORDER OF CANADA



David Scott, Co-Chair of
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG)
in Ottawa

David Scott, co-chair of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) in Ottawa, and a Trustee of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, was recently appointed to the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to the legal profession and for his many charitable activities.

A graduate of Montreal's Loyola College, David has served as director of numerous social and philanthropic organizations, and sat on the Board of Directors of Pro Bono Law Ontario from 2008 to 2010.

In 2010, the Lexpert Zenith Awards recognized David with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the advancement of pro bono law. As a Trustee of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, David has been an active member of the board and is enthusiastic about the mission of the Foundation in promoting an understanding of Irish culture and in particular the achievements of the Irish in Canada. In the fall of 2012, David will organize a fund-raising event in Ottawa to create an Irish Studies Scholarship honouring Patrick Murray, the Irish-born Mayor of Rockcliffe Park in Ottawa and a former Director of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation.

An appointment to the Order of Canada recognizes a lifetime of achievement and merit of a high degree, especially in service to Canada or to the community at large. It is one of the highest honours that can be awarded to a Canadian citizen.

Brian O'Neill Gallery LLD, Chair of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, on behalf of the Board of Directors and other Trustees, congratulates David for this prestigious and well-deserved honour.

RUTH BARTON WILL BE O'BRIEN VISITING SCHOLAR FOR 2012-2013



Ruth Barton

Ruth Barton is the author of numerous books and articles on Irish cinema, including: Jim Sheridan, *Framing the Nation*, Dublin: Liffey Press, 2002; *Keeping it Real*, Irish Film and Television, London and New York: Wallflower Press 2004 (as co-editor); *Irish National Cinema*, New York and London: Routledge, 2004; *Acting Irish in Hollywood*, Dublin and Portland, Or: Irish Academic Press, 2006; *Screening Irish-America*, Dublin and Portland, Or: Irish Academic Press, 2009. (as editor). She is also the author of *Hedy Lamarr: The Most Beautiful Woman in Film*, Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2010. Her current research project is on the Irish silent era film director, Rex Ingram. She is Head of the Department of Film Studies at Trinity College Dublin and teaches courses in Irish cinema, transnational cinemas, Russian cinema and British cinema.

IRISH GOVERNMENT CONTINUES SUPPORT

Despite the severe financial challenges facing Ireland, the government, working with the Ireland Canada University Foundation, has renewed its \$20,000 support for an Irish Language Instructor to come to Concordia in the 2012-13 academic year. The Government of Ireland will partner with the School of Canadian Irish Studies to finance a young Irish language scholar to teach two classes at Concordia, beginning in September 2012 and running until May 2013.

The scholar will be chosen in Ireland from a very competitive field of applicants. Courses to be taught are a beginner's course on Irish language and culture which will explore the Irish language by looking at its use in folklore, mythology, literature and legends as well as intermediate courses in Irish for those who have a basic knowledge of its structure and vocabulary.

OPENING OF THE FR. MCENTEE ROOM



Seen at the official opening of the Fr. Tom McEntee Reading Room in November are, from left, Michael Kenneally (Principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies), Frederick Lowy (President and Vice-Chancellor), Dominique McCaughey (Associate Vice President, Advancement and Alumni Relations) and Brian Lewis (Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science). Designed and equipped through the generous support of friends of Fr. McEntee, the reading room houses a growing Irish Studies book collection and serves as a location for public lectures, seminars, meetings and receptions. It is the centerpiece of the new location of the School of Canadian Irish Studies now located on the tenth floor of the downtown Hall Building.

BY THE NUMBERS

9,500 Students who have taken Irish Studies Courses

830 Students enrolled in 2011-2012

19 Courses offered in 2012-2013

\$24,700 Scholarships in 2011-2012

134 Scholarships Awarded since inception

\$128,000 Total amount of Scholarships awarded since inception

243 Courses offered since inception

FALL AND WINTER COURSES AVAILABLE FOR 2012-2013

- Introduction to Canadian Irish Studies (Prof. Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin)
- History of Ireland (Prof. Gavin Foster)
- Diasporic Dispersal & Settlement (Prof. Jane McCaughey)
- The Irish in Canada (Prof. Jane McCaughey)
- History of Early and Mediaeval Ireland (Prof. Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin)
- Irish Revolution, 1913-23 (Prof. Gavin Foster)
- Celtic Christianity (Prof. Pamela Bright)
- Narrating Irish Childhoods (Prof. Susan Cahill)
- James Joyce (Prof. Susan Cahill)
- Irish Language and Culture I (TBA)
- Irish Language and Culture II (TBA)
- Cinema of the Celtic Tiger (Prof. Ruth Barton)
- Gender and Irish Cinema (Prof. Ruth Barton)
- Contemporary Irish Literature (Prof. Michael Kenneally)
- Research Methods in Irish Studies (Prof. Gavin Foster)
- The Troubles in Northern Ireland (Prof. Gavin Foster)
- Irish Literary Revival (Prof. Susan Cahill)
- The Irish Diaspora on Film and Television (Prof. Jane McCaughey)
- The Irish Home: Food, Space and Agency (Prof. Rhona Richman Kenneally)
- Contemporary Irish Women's Writing (Prof. Susan Cahill)

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Due to the generosity of its many supporters, the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation is able to provide a series of scholarships to students in Irish Studies who excel in their academic achievements and require financial assistance. If you, your family or association would like to create a scholarship that would honor someone for a particular achievement or milestone, or memorialize a departed loved one, contact Michael Kenneally at the School of CIS.



Amanda Leigh Cox

ST PATRICK'S SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

I am currently in Year II of Concordia's Integrated PhD in the Humanities, where my primary research interests include: Irish Studies, Peace and Reconciliation Studies, cultural reparations, collective memory and narrative, translation and post-colonialism. My research is grounded in the study of culture, society, and literature in pre-and post-Independent Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Acadie. A sincere thank you to the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal and the Scholarship Awards Committee of the School of Canadian Irish Studies.



Heather Macdougall

ST PATRICK'S SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

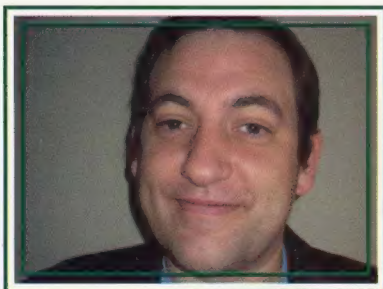
I am in my final year of the interdisciplinary PhD Humanities program at Concordia. Throughout my degree I have participated actively in the Irish Studies community, by publishing in the *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies*, presenting at various conferences, and teaching courses on Irish and Northern Irish film. I am also a member of the programming committee for the Cine Gael Montreal Irish Film Society. I am very grateful for this award, which will help me complete my dissertation on Irish-language cinema.



Kelly Norah Drukker

ST PATRICK'S SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

I am very grateful to the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal and to the CISF for their generous support as I pursue my MA in English and Creative Writing. This scholarship will help fund a trip to Ireland to pursue my research for my Creative Thesis. My project is a collection of poems, set primarily on the island of Inis Mór in County Galway. I shall look at Inis Mór through the lens of its history as an important monastic site in early Christian Ireland, and explore how traces of its past co-exist and interact with the realities of island life in the 21st century.



Raymond Jess

IRENE MULRONEY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

I am a first year graduate student in the SIP (Special Individualized Programs) in the School of Graduate Studies. The focus of my thesis is to evaluate the ways in which the Protestant Irish of Québec framed and defined Canadian national identity in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. I am especially proud to be the 2011 recipient of the Irene Mulroney Graduate Scholarship and am very grateful to the donors who created this scholarship. I also thank the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation for its support of Irish Studies.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Maria Filippone

SEAN TREACY SCHOLARSHIP

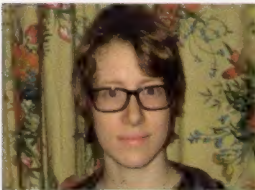
Growing up in East End Montreal, Irish culture was completely foreign to me. When I decided to register for a class in Contemporary Irish Drama, Frank McGuinness' *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* and Marina Carr's *The Mai* profoundly affected me and opened my eyes to the depth of wisdom Irish authors had to offer. This epiphany set me off on a journey to discover the fascinating culture of Ireland and the resilience of her people. It is a great honour to receive the Sean Tracy Scholarship, for which I am very thankful for.



Angela Olaguera

FRANCIS HINCKS SCHOLARSHIP

I am a Classics, Modern Languages, and Linguistics Major (concentration: Classical Civilization) and a Canadian Irish Studies minor - hoping to be, by September 2012, a double major. My love affair with Ireland began in my childhood and has been fostered throughout my life through music, literature, history, and personal ties to Ireland. Through music, history, literature, folklore, and film, I have been able to gain more intimate knowledge and develop a better understanding of this place that I love so much. I would like to thank the School of Canadian Irish Studies for their encouragement and support.



Allison Beazey Pare

TIMOTHY EDWARD MCININCH SCHOLARSHIP

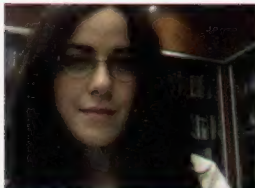
I am in my third year of Honors History, with a minor in Canadian-Irish Studies. I have always been interested in Ireland, as half of my family is of Irish descent. While interested in many aspects of Ireland, I am truly passionate about the medieval period as well as its rich mythology; the legends and myths have always inspired me to write stories. I am honored to receive the Timothy Edward McIninch Scholarship, and it will be a great help to me in my study of Irish history.



Ashley Ma

MOIRA ANN SNOW SCHOLARSHIP

I am extremely honoured and grateful to have been selected for this Scholarship and would like to thank the donors for their generosity. My love for the School of Canadian Irish Studies has grown during my second year at Concordia as it has given me the opportunity to combine my passion for such a rich and vibrant culture along with my university education. The School's program has also helped me in other areas of my academic career. I hope to continue my studies in the Major once it is implemented and I look forward to the many more amazing courses the School will have to offer.



Cassie Smith

ARTHUR MEIGHEN SCHOLARSHIP

I am working towards a BA in Community, Public Affairs and Policy with a Minor in Canadian Irish Studies. It took me a long time to decide on a field of study, and I couldn't be happier to be part of the School of Canadian Irish Studies at Concordia. From history to literature to language, the programme has helped to expose me to diverse areas of knowledge, while simultaneously grounding me in my own heritage. Following completion of my degree, I hope to continue my studies and explorations in Ireland; I am very grateful to the Arthur Meighen Scholarship for helping to bring me one step closer to achieving these goals.



Maria Filippone

UNITED IRISH SOCIETIES OF MONTREAL SCHOLARSHIP

I am a student in Translation at Concordia University, with a double minor in Spanish studies and in Irish studies. My first contact with Ireland was almost four years ago when I decided to go work there to improve my English. It was love at first sight. My passion for this beautiful country resulted in me choosing a minor in Canadian Irish Studies. I personally think that it is a very unique and interesting interdisciplinary program. Moreover, I was one of the lucky ones who went to study at University College Cork in Ireland last winter. It was an incredible experience that has transformed me. I want to thank the CISF and the faculty at the school for their support.



Gabrielle Machnik-Kekesi

FR. SHAUN MCCARTHY GOVENLOCK SCHOLARSHIP

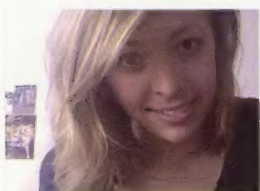
I am delighted to have been named the 2011-2012 recipient of the Fr. Shaun Gerard McCarthy Govenlock Scholarship in Canadian Irish Studies. I am currently in my third year of my undergraduate degree, majoring in History with a minor in Canadian Irish Studies. These have inspired an especial interest in the history of the Irish Civil War, an area of study that I wish to further explore in my future studies. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the donors, the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, the School of Canadian Irish Studies and the faculty for their commitment to Irish Studies.



Kim McAllister

GERERD KEYES SCHOLARSHIP

I grew up in a small town in rural Quebec and then moved to the city to continue my studies. I have always had a deep fascination with Ireland so I naturally felt drawn to the School of Canadian Irish studies. I am currently taking an Irish language class and several Irish history classes. They allow me to deepen my understanding of Ireland and to learn more about my heritage. This scholarship gives me the confidence and financial ability to continue my passion in Irish history.



Madeleine Follis

GERALDINE O'LOUGHLIN STANFORD SCHOLARSHIP

I first was interested in the field of Irish studies because of my extensive background in Irish culture. Since the age of 8, I have been a competitive Irish dancer and still compete today at the World level. Since joining a few Irish studies courses I have grown to love the subject even more. I'm grateful that the school offers such a variety of Irish studies courses and I look forward to exploring them further.



Stephanie Adler

MATTHEW HAMILTON GAULT SCHOLARSHIP

I am currently a B.Sc. Psychology student with a minor in Irish Studies. I have long been fascinated with the Irish culture, most particularly its beautiful and poetic language. This scholarship will allow me to further my pursuit of studying this passion of mine. I also hope to be able to one day link my studies in Psychology with those in Irish Studies, from a psychosocial context.



Olivia Crawford

MARY TRAVERS SCHOLARSHIP

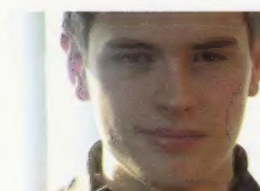
I'm in my third year at Concordia University where I major in the School of Community and Public Affairs and minor in Canadian Irish studies. I am actively involved in the Montréal Irish community and last year was chosen as the Saint Patrick's Day parade queen. I hope to major in Canadian Irish studies this time next year. I am very grateful to the CISF for this scholarship.



Kathleen Green

STEPHEN DOWD SCHOLARSHIP

I am taking a major in Classics and a minor in Canadian Irish Studies. I choose to minor in Canadian Irish Studies because I have always been fascinated with the country of Ireland and I have always known my ancestors to be Irish immigrants, which made me curious and as a result I wanted to become more familiar with that part of my family. My future plan is to become a Classics professor at a college level. I also plan to use my background in Irish Studies to help others become more familiar with the Irish culture and its significance. I would like to thank the School of Canadian Irish studies for selecting me for the Stephen Dowd Scholarship.



Patrick Reed

IRISH PROTESTANT BENEVOLENT SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

As I take claim to some Irish heritage, I have always been fascinated by Irish history, but never thought I would have the opportunity to study it in such depth as the School of Canadian Irish Studies provides. This scholarship will help me pursue my studies, so that I might one day contribute to the fields of both History and Irish Studies.

COMMUNITY MEMBER VALERIE SHANNON STIMULATED BY THE CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES PROGRAM



Valerie Shannon

I am a mature student enrolled in the certificate programme in the School of Canadian Irish Studies at Concordia University. For the past four years, I have taken a course per semester with some of the most outstanding professors and interesting fellow students. Doing research on my family history made me realize how little I knew about Ireland where my mother was born and from where my husband's ancestors emigrated in the mid 1700s. My previous

academic degrees were from the Schools of Nursing at McGill and the University of British Columbia but that was many years ago. So, it was with some anxiety and much enthusiasm that I began my studies in this new field.

What I appreciate most is the relatively small class size and the stimulating professors who encourage active engagement with the course content which comes from many disciplines. This interdisciplinary approach is rich, provocative and essential to understanding the complexities of Ireland. The professors are also readily available for individual consultation. My fellow students are bright, talented and fun to work with. There is great respect shown to mature students who bring diverse life experiences to the subjects at hand. Also, I have thoroughly enjoyed the fall lecture series where we are given the opportunity to learn from and dialogue with national and international leaders in the field of Irish Studies.

As I read the literature now, I can often say, "I have heard him or her speak at Concordia".

I also elected to do an independent study course which entailed attending the Yeats Summer School in Sligo, doing an annotated bibliography and a research paper under the supervision of Dr. Michael Kenneally. My subject was the relationship between Yeats and Irish Folklore where I uncovered another world of myth and magic in his poetry which gives me great pleasure and charms my granddaughters.

I have also very unexpectedly benefited from the generous scholarship programme and have been awarded the Sean Treacy and Gerard Keyes Scholarships in Canadian Irish Studies. Support and encouragement in many forms abound in this school.

My experience at Concordia in the School of Canadian Irish Studies has totally surpassed my expectations and enriched my life. Who would have thought retirement could be so much fun!

IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SCHOOL

During the St. Patrick's Day celebrations, Mr. Eamon Gilmore, Irish Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, along with Paul Martin, former Canadian Prime Minister and Honorary Patron of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, Daniel Johnson, former Quebec Premier, Dr. Ray Bassett, Ambassador of Ireland, and other guests visited the School of Canadian Irish Studies.

At a reception attended by Concordia's senior administrators, President Frederick Lowy welcomed the special guests and thanked Foreign Minister Gilmore for the ongoing support of Irish Studies at Concordia from the Government of Ireland. In his remarks, Mr. Gilmore commended the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, Concordia University and the Quebec and Canadian Governments for their partnership in creating what he described as "a world-class academic location for the study of Ireland and the Irish Diaspora," hailing it "as a unique centre in Canada for teaching and research."

The highlight of the occasion was the presentation by Mr. Gilmore of Certificates of Irish Heritage to Mr. Martin and Mr. Johnson. In their response, they both said they were deeply touched by this acknowledgement of their Irish heritage, and expressed pride in the role they played in the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation in helping to develop Irish Studies at Concordia. Dr. David Graham, Provost and Vice-President of Concordia, said how pleased he was that Canadian Irish Studies at Concordia now had a distinguished national and international profile of academic excellence. The event was attended by several Trustees of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation as well as representatives of various Montreal Irish associations.

ARTHUR MEIGHEN SCHOLARSHIP INCREASED

The Hon. Michael Meighen has recently made an additional donation of \$2000 to the Arthur Meighen Scholarship endowment increasing it from \$10,000 to \$12,000. The scholarship honors Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister of Canada in 1920-21, and 1926. The Arthur Meighen Scholarship is now valued at \$600 annually. Chairman Brian O'Neill Gallery LLD extends his thanks to Mr. Meighen for increasing the scholarship created in the name of his grandfather.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES TO THE DONORS

Brian O'Neill Gallery LLD (Chair), Dr. John M. Little (Vice-Chair), Gary O'Connor (Treasurer), Peter Cullen (Honorary Secretary) and Trustees Jack Brennan, Brian Casey, Daniel Colson, W. Brian Edwards, P. André Gervais, Daniel Johnson, Patrick Keenan, Susan Kruger, John J. O'Connor, Catherine Richards, David Scott, Matthew R. Tedford and William Wilson **would like to thank you for your recent donation to help cover the cost of an additional professor, scholarships and other activities of the School.**

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